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DE RUEHSO #0152 0781230
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O 191230Z MAR 09
FM AMCONSUL SAO PAULO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9024
INFO RHEHNSC/NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY 0174
RUEHRI/AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO PRIORITY 9068

UNCLAS SAO PAULO 000152

SIPDIS

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SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION - GLOBAL ECONOMY: FINANCIAL MARKET CRISIS;
STIMULUS PACKAGES; PROTECTIONISM; G-20 FINANCE MINISTERS' MEETING;
WESTERN HEMISPHERE: CHAVEZ; SAO PAULO

Chavez fulfills his words

Editorial in center-right O Estado de S. Paulo (3-18) states: "When ordering the military occupation of the three most busy ports in Venezuela, coronel Hugo Chavez, once more, fulfilled his words....the new law is clearly unconstitutional....nevertheless, this is an aspect that has never kept the general from sleeping....Hugo Chavez is completing, thus, the process of undermining the power of states and municipalities run by the opposition."

Is the world really more closed?

Op-ed in center-right O Estado de S. Paulo (3-18) by Andre Meloni Nassar states: "....there is no doubt that the decrease in international trade comes along with more intensive uses of restrictive measures.....even though the efforts to use the G20 meeting in London to reinforce the curse of restrictive measures to trade are valid, we know that countries will not renounce to them. Our consolation is that in the current crisis, unlike that of 1929, the drop in trade is the outcome not the cause."
WHITE